

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

I. General Remarks

Please consider the application in view of the following remarks.

II. Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-60 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-7, 9, 14, 16, 17, 20-27, 29, 34, 36, 37, 40-47, 49, 54, 56, 57, and 60 have been amended. These amendments are supported by the application as filed.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25, 29, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 43, 45, 49, 54, 57, and 60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

III. Rejections of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25, 29, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 43, 45, 49, 54, 57, and 60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner writes that these claims are deemed indefinite as being drawn to improper Markush groupings. (*See* Office Action at ¶ 2.) Although Applicant believes that this language was sufficiently definite, in this Response, Applicant has amended these claims in accordance with the Examiner's request. The Examiner noted in the Office Action that these claims would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph set forth in the Office Action. (*See* Office Action at ¶ 4.) Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of these rejections, and assert that claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25, 29, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 43, 45, 49, 54, 57, and 60 are now in condition for allowance.

IV. Allowed Claims

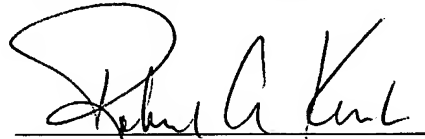
In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1, 4, 6-8, 10-13, 15, 18, 19, 21, 24, 26-28, 30-33, 35, 38, 39, 41, 44, 46-48, 50-53, 55, 56, 58, and 59. (*See* Office Action at ¶ 5.) Although several of these claims have been amended in this Response, Applicant respectfully asserts that these claims are still allowable as amended herein.

SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections. Applicant further submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicits timely notice of the same. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile, or electronic mail.

Applicant believes that there are no fees due in association with this filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any additional fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition Therefor, and directs that any additional fees be charged to the Deposit Account of Halliburton Energy Services, Inc., No. 08-0300.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Kent", is written over a horizontal line.

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